

Computer to link libraries

By Lori Stephens
Of the Emerald

Lane County's eight public libraries and the Lane Community College library soon will be able to share information and request books through a new computerized linking system.

A grant from the Library Services and Construction Act, a federal act designed to improve library service, will provide the funding for the new system.

The project should take three years to complete, but the Eugene Public Library will have 15 new computer terminals ready for public use by the end of the summer, says Carol Hildebrand, assistant city librarian.

The University library will not be joining the Lane County linking system, however, says George Shipman, University librarian. With more than one million volumes, the library is too massive and the equipment needed would be too expensive to fit the needs of the other public libraries, he says.

The municipal library has used a loan system with the smaller libraries for many years, "but when you do it by means of a (card) catalog, it's very cumbersome," Hildebrand says.

Cottage Grove and Fern Ridge will get their computers and enter their bibliographic information into the system in the first year. Florence, Junction City, LCC and the other libraries will join the network in the second and third years. All will tie into the \$170,000 computer and storage system at the municipal library, which replaces the system used there since 1978, Hildebrand says.

The information bank is part of the Ohio College Library Center system. Libraries that become members of this international cataloging utility will be able to locate and request books, magazines, records and art faster and more efficiently.

"The little libraries that could never afford to be on this international cataloging and inter-library loan system will be able to (participate under the new program)," Hildebrand says. Each

library will do its own training and data entry, with some guidance and assistance from the Lane Council of Librarians.

The computers will allow patrons to find out the number of copies of books and other materials the library system holds, where they're located in the county, whether or not they're checked out, and if so, when they're due back, Hildebrand says. The computer also stores information on address changes and overdue notices, which is beneficial for library staff, she says.

Though such a service could help the University's library, its main purpose is another reason the facility is declining the county program.

"Libraries have specific objectives," Shipman says. "The University of Oregon Library objectives are supporting instruction, research and service, mainly to the community we serve here on the campus."

"They (the smaller libraries) are not there to provide a research collection. They're there to provide recreational reading for the community of Eugene," Shipman says.

The University library has been a part of the inter-library loan program for several years and became a member of OCLC in 1981. It also allows students access to a computer that will do a "data base search" to gather indexed reference information on almost any subject.

A computerized cataloging system can be used and updated much easier than the standard card system. "The bigger a (card) catalog gets, the more expensive it is to file," Shipman says. "With an automated system, you can program it to perform certain activities which check up on itself."

A proposal requesting \$6 million to improve library automation in all colleges and universities in Oregon has been submitted to the state. It includes the cost of converting catalog records, machinery, programming and added staff. The proposal will go before the governor in August.

"It's going to represent a significant improvement in an individual being able to find useful information on a given topic," Shipman says.

White Train protesters reunite

By Shannon Kelley
Of the Emerald

The White Train may once again be traveling through Oregon, and a group of Eugene protesters are once again getting ready to stop it.

In February, 35 people were arrested as they rallied to stop the train, which they claim carries nuclear weapons. More than 100 protesters — including 50 from Eugene — took part in that demonstration, delaying the train in Portland for almost three hours. About 40 people who either had been involved in that incident or who were curious about it met with members of the Agape Community Sunday night at the United Methodist Church to discuss plans for civil disobedience to protest the train.

Agape, which members say means "God's love at work for change," is composed of people who live along the White Train's route and notify other activists of its whereabouts. Several Agape members were involved in the February action.

Agape was formed in 1981 as an offspring of a workshop discussing the Christian roots of

non-violence. The group first protested trains carrying motors for Trident missiles and later became involved with the White Train.

The group is dedicated to education and action through Gandhi's principles of non-violence, local activist Hal Darst says.

"The means is the end in the process of becoming," Darst said at Sunday's gathering. There are two ways a person can act through force or through inspiration, he said.

In Gandhi's theory of non-violence, force is termed "duragraha." Duragraha uses non-violence as a tactic to gain short-term goals, such as stopping the white train, but doesn't change the spirit and reasons behind the train's mission, Darst said.

On the other hand, "satyagraha" recognizes the commonality and love in all people and respects the "opposition," said Carol Paulson, an Agape member from Corvallis.

Paulson gave an example of satyagraha she witnessed at the White Train action. While the



Carol Paulson

Portland police pulled protesters from the tracks, Paulson and a police officer spontaneously hugged each other. They were both crying and the officer said "I'm sorry. I really don't want to do this," Paulson said.

"We are seeing evidence of a relating of love and respect (with opponents) even though we very much disagree with each other's positions," Paulson said.

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